

In short, the business approach to UI doesn't seem to have changed, even though the bad old days of higher UI taxes and lenient treatment of unemployed workers are long gone. Whatever the validity of the cost-cutting approach of the mid-1970s to mid-1980s period, employers, should rethink their "cost above all else" approach to UI.

Especially in the current political climate, the views of employers are of paramount importance. Unless the policies advocated by employers change, the downward trend of the past fifteen or twenty years will continue, and this will have serious impacts on employers and the larger society—not just on unemployed workers.

The developments of the last fifteen or twenty years have undercut the achievement of our national UI goals. This was mainly due to the effective elimination of the EB program in 1981, the spread of state restrictions on UI eligibility and the adoption of harsher disqualifications during the 1970s and 1980s. Meeting these national UI goals is important to workers and employers. For this reason, favorable action on the recommendations of the Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation is important to employers as well as the rest of our society. I hope that employers will review their UI policy positions in light of the Advisory Council's recommendations. This would be an important step in restoring the vitality of our UI system.

Thank you, and I look forward to your questions following the remarks of Bob Mitchell.

RECOGNIZING SERVICE BY WCTE-TV

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 1995

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, WCTE-TV in Cookeville, TN, provides a great service to the television viewers of Putnam County and the Upper Cumberland region of Tennessee. The enclosed article from the New York Times shows how the small, but capable staff juggle many responsibilities and produce quality local programming.

[From the New York Times, Apr. 17, 1995]

WHERE PUBLIC TV IS MORE THAN A POLITICAL FOOTBALL

(By Laurie Mifflin)

COOKEVILLE, TN.—When people argue about public television in Washington, Boston, New York or Los Angeles, they talk about "Sesame Street," "Nova" and "Frontline"; about whether the political programming is too partisan, about whether opera and ballet are too elitist, and about slashing station budgets of \$100 million a year or more.

Here, too, in Cookeville, in the Upper Cumberland region of Tennessee, public television means "Sesame Street," "Nova" and "Frontline." But political programming means covering monthly meetings of the Putnam County Commission. Cultural programming means the Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree and the Tennessee Tech Faculty Brass Quintet. The budget runs a little over \$1 million. And the station consists of three rooms and a truck.

The boxy WCTE-TV truck is parked beneath the iron girders and concrete risers of the Tennessee Tech football stadium, the station's home. It is a "remote truck," divided inside into three cramped carrels lined

with audio and video editing equipment, the kind of truck television crews use when they cover events away from the studio.

This remote truck does venture out—to cover Tech football or basketball road games—but as soon as it is parked under the stadium, thick hanks of blue cable are pulled out and connected to other cables leading to the station's control room, because the truck doubles as the station's main editing facility.

So when Donna Castle and Rick Wells return from videotaping teenagers in Cane Creek Park who are testing leaf and water samples in a regional "Envirothon" contest, for example, Mrs. Castle climbs into the truck and sits down to edit a Hot Puddin' Cake recipe for that week's "Cumberland Cooking With Cathy" show.

Mr. Wells heads to the "studio" on the other side of the parking-bay wall—a windowless 20-by-30-foot room with cinder-block walls and klieg lights sprouting from the ceiling—to operate a camera focused on teams of jittery high school students competing in the Upper Cumberland Academic Bowl. And when that taping starts, Mrs. Castle will have to stop editing because David Dow will need the truck's control panel to direct the three-camera Academic Bowl production.

WNET in New York and WGBH in Boston may be the signature stations of the Public Broadcasting Service because they produce many of its best programs, but the mom-and-pop stations of small-town America have deep roots in the public television heritage, too.

The two dozen or so smallest PBS stations in the country receive 30 to 40 percent of their budgets from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, so eliminating Federal financing could force them to close up shop. But "zeroing out" now appears unlikely; when Congress returns from Easter recess, the House and Senate will have to reconcile their versions of bills to cut back financing, with the compromise likely to be in the 10-to-15-percent range.

But for Donna and Richard Castle, the operators of WCTE, Channel 22, in Cookeville, even a 10 percent cut will hurt their bare-bones budget of \$1.16 million (which includes 18 salaries). And because it would be cheaper simply to pick up PBS's national programming, Channel 22 would probably cut back the thing that makes it distinctive: its local programming.

WCTE was founded in 1978 as part of the state Department of Education, and Mr. Castle, 58, the general manager, still calls it "educational TV" as often as he calls it "public TV." The station offers instructional programs used by local schools and by parents who teach their children at home, as well as programs informing the community about local government, local schools, local cultural affairs and local businesses.

"We're here for the public, and I try to remember it all the time," Mrs. Castle said. "If people around here want to see the Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree instead of something from the Theater of the Rhinoceros in San Francisco, that's O.K."

Mr. Castle pronounces himself "stumped" by the Washington politicians who seem so down on public television. "We've never been partisan or played politics in any way," he said of WCTE. "And when they talk about public TV being for the wealthy and the elite, well, that's sure not true here."

Cookeville lies midway between Nashville and Knoxville, far enough from each for the area to qualify for Federal money to build an 840-foot television and radio transmission tower. To the east, the countryside's rolling ridges become small mountains; there, television reception requires either a satellite

dish or a huge antenna. Many people cannot afford either.

"In our viewing area, 60 percent of the people don't have cable," Mr. Castle said. "In the mountainous parts, if you don't have a dish, you can't even get ABC, CBS or NBC. In some of the historically poor areas around here, the only station people get is Channel 22."

Channel 22, one of the smallest PBS stations in the country in terms of both budget and viewership, is so small that it falls "below measurable standards" for rating by the A.C. Nielsen Media Research Company. Nielsen estimates WCTE's cumulative weekly audience (house-holds that tune in for at least 15 minutes a week) at 17,000 to 18,000.

The station gets its modest home rent-free from Tennessee Tech, whose green campus graced by red-brick Georgian buildings is the town's centerpiece. Of the station's \$1.6 million budget for 1994-95, \$393,254 comes from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and \$498,315 from the state.

Finding that level of financial support around Cookeville would be unlikely. Membership in Channel 22, which costs \$25 a year, accounted for \$50,000 last year. An annual eight-night auction at the town's Drama Center, run by 200 volunteers, added \$72,000. There are no large corporations here, and persuading local businesses to underwrite programs instead of buying advertising on local commercial stations is difficult.

"We charge \$50 a program a week," said Tina Majors, WCTE's director of development, "whether it's for a local program or one from PBS, but that's for a 13-week commitment. Some businesses won't commit to that, but they'll spend \$100 for two spots in a big local event like Horse Show Night at the county fair."

Ms. Majors is WCTE's newest employee, hired about 18 months ago because of fears about losing financing. She is just about the only one who doesn't work on programs. "There's nobody here who can't run a camera," Mr. Castle likes to say.

Sue Gibbons, the traffic manager, said, "Richard and Donna's three boys grew up in the station, pulling cable and helping out." Russ Castle, 23, now works for a local radio station but still "runs a camera," unpaid, on all Tennessee Tech football games for WCTE. His 20-year-old twin brothers, Art and Roger, attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and run cameras (also without being paid) when they are home.

Steve Boots, the station's young assistant manager, describes his job as "anything from grabbing a broom to hosting a show." He was the host for the Upper Cumberland Academic Bowl in early April.

Channel 22's director of educational programming, Becky Magura, started out as a college intern in 1980 and has run the camera on hundreds of football and basketball games by now. She also produces the Academic Bowl shows and many segments for "Upper Cumberland Camera," a magazine-format show that appears every Thursday night.

That program—"52 new shows a year; we don't repeat," Mrs. Castle says with pride—has done segments on the effort to restore defunct movie theaters, on a conference offering advice to women in business, and on a Tennessee Tech professor using computer simulation in chemistry experiments.

The station also produces the "Upper Cumberland Business Profile," an interview program; "Education in the Upper Cumberland," and "Cumberland Cooking With Cathy." "When she did her Christmas show, we stupidly said, 'Send us an envelope if you want recipes,'" Mrs. Castle said. "We got over 600 requests. Joyce Hunter and I sat there and stuffed all those envelopes."

WCTE's productions look and sound as professional on the screen as most shows aired

on Channel 13 in New York. Indeed, its one-hour special on the Smithville Fiddlers Jamboree was offered nationally by PBS, and more than 100 stations picked it up.

Teachers, parents and elderly residents watch the instructional programming offered every weekday between 9:30 A.M. and 2:30 P.M., including some courses for college credit. Mrs. Magura, the mother of a 4-year old, coordinates the schedule with PBS and makes sure teachers get the guides that go with it.

"A lot of our rural schools don't have VCR's," she said, "so teachers watch our program guide very closely. If something they want is on at 10:30 A.M., they put on the TV in their classroom at 10:30 A.M."

Mrs. Castle bristles at two frequent criticisms of public television: that it serves only an elite and offers too much provocative programming.

"People come up to me and say they watched 'Upper Cumberland Camera,'" she said, "and some of them go on and say, 'Boy I sure enjoyed that mystery program you had on.' So they watch us, and then maybe it leads them to watch 'Mystery' or 'Nova' or Charles Dickens, too."

As for programming, she points out that middle Tennessee has a cultural heritage of its own. "Our local programming gives people around here a positive image of themselves, too," she said. "It gives people things to feel proud of."

HEALTH CARE REFORM

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, while health care reform legislation has been temporarily set-aside for other pressing business, we can not neglect the important issues raised during the health care reform debate.

A major focus of several of the proposals involved the need to increase the number of doctors providing primary care services. Today, too many new physicians elect to practice specialized medicine where they can earn higher salaries. As a result, there is a deficiency in the number of physicians that practice general family health care or primary health care.

I would like to direct my colleagues' attention to the efforts of Dr. Robert Ross, chairman and founder of Ross University School of Medicine located on the Island of Dominica in the Caribbean. Dr. Ross has greatly contributed to reversing the trend in the declining numbers of primary care physicians. Dr. Ross opened Ross University in 1978 with just 13 students. Since that time, over 2,500 students have received medical degrees from the university. In fact, Ross University celebrated its 33d commencement on June 3, 1995, at the United Nations. Ross University graduates have continued on into medical residency training and medical practice all over the United States.

Ross University is committed to academic excellence and requires its students to complete the basic sciences portion of the curriculum in Dominica. Then, they return to the United States to complete their clinical clerkships in teaching hospitals. Recently, I toured the campus in Dominica and found the facilities to be of the highest quality—utilizing state-of-the-art technologies.

In addition, many Ross University graduates have set up their primary care practices in rural and urban areas that would otherwise go without the attention of a physician. These foreign-trained medical students help fill the critical shortage of primary care physicians. In fact, over 20 percent of the practicing doctors in the States of Michigan, North Dakota, Illinois, Connecticut, and Delaware were educated outside the United States. In New Jersey, the figure is 33 percent, and in New York this number is nearly 50 percent.

Dr. Ross and Ross University provide a valuable service to the American people. I urge my colleagues to examine the contribution foreign medical schools can make with respect to primary health care.

KEEP ACDA INDEPENDENT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, now is not the time to be dismantling the one agency whose sole mandate is to formulate, negotiate, implement, and verify arms control and nonproliferation agreements.

The Arms Control and Disarmament Agency [ACDA] should remain an independent agency with the goal of strengthening U.S. national security through effective arms control agreements. President Eisenhower, who first proposed the agency, and President Kennedy, who founded it, both recognized the need for an independent voice on arms control matters within the Federal Government.

The United States is pursuing the biggest, broadest arms control and nonproliferation agenda in history. With the end of the cold war and the rising threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, we need a clear focus on resolving outstanding arms control issues.

Now is not the time to abolish ACDA. Yet that is exactly what the Republicans are doing in H.R. 1561, the American Overseas Interests Act.

The American people want a world that is safer for their children than the one in which they grew up. Let us hope we can avoid the days when school children learned to duck and cover under their desks at the same time they were learning their ABCs. An independent ACDA provides an assurance that our Nation will continue to maintain the proper focus on arms control and nonproliferation agreements.

I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 1561.

IN MEMORY OF FLOYD CECEL COUGILL

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special man, Floyd Cecel Cougill, who passed away recently after a lifetime of helping the people of southern Illinois. It is with great sadness that I offer my condolences

to his family, and say that Floyd's passing is a great loss to all who knew him.

Floyd dedicated his life to helping the hard-working people of southern Illinois. At the young age of 13 Floyd started to work at the Metropolis Box Factory, and later he made his way to the Metropolis Bending Co. where he became a charter member of Local No. 1301 of the Laborers International Union of North America. In 1949, Floyd founded the Construction and General Laborers Local No. 1320 of the American Federation of Labor, and served as its business agent until his retirement in 1973. Even during his retirement Floyd remained active in the union by continuing to serve as an organizer for the Laborers International Union of North America.

Mr. Speaker, Floyd's unquestionable personal integrity and honesty gained the respect of all who knew him. It is for this reason that people turned to him when they needed sound advice. It was for his unparalleled commitment to honesty that Southern Illinois University invited him to serve on a special panel that was designed to help find solutions to labor-management relations for the entire southern Illinois region. Floyd was always willing to help solve problems that the working people of southern Illinois face on a daily basis. His life was dedicated to helping ensure that these people had decent jobs and decent lives.

Floyd's efforts to help the lives of working people will not be forgotten. The unions he helped found and the workers he helped to gain meaningful representation serve as a living monument to his work and dedication. Rarely in life is one person able to directly help the lives of countless individuals, but through Floyd's hard work, he was able to serve his neighbors in crucial ways. Mr. Speaker, I believe I speak for many when I say Floyd Cecel Cougill will truly be missed, but will always be remembered.

NATIONAL MARITIME DAY

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 8, 1995

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay homage to America's merchant mariners. As you may be aware, each year, at the request of the Congress, the President declares May 22 as National Maritime Day to honor the Nation's merchant mariners. The significance of National Maritime Day was marked the week of May 21 with special ceremonies and events held in Washington, DC, and cities throughout the country.

Fifty years ago, on Maritime Day in 1945, the leaders of the U.S. Armed Forces, including General Eisenhower and Admiral Nimitz, praised the American merchant mariners who sailed on civilian merchant ships moving war materials to Europe and the Far East. These men and ships participated in every landing operation of the Marine Corps in the Pacific. Their skill and courage made a vital difference to our Armed Forces in the European and Pacific theaters of World War II. The American merchant marine later provided strong support to our Armed Forces during the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf.

As a Vietnam veteran, I was grateful for the assistance of the civilian merchant mariners.